



NEWS RELEASE

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Palmdale Man Sentenced for Killing Man Over Driveway Argument

A Palmdale man was sentenced today to 40 years to life in state prison for killing the owner of the Acton Water Company after a verbal argument over where the water truck was parked, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Thomas Trainor said Scott Russell Shipley, 57, was found guilty by a jury on April 25 of second-degree murder.

On May 15, 2013, Shipley was driving on a small dirt road toward his house on Eagle Butte Road when he saw an Acton Water Company truck parked in front of a neighbor's house filling up a pool. Unable to drive through, the defendant called the owner of the company, Christopher Demyen, to complain. Shipley told Demyen he would be leaving his truck to block the company truck and walked to his house where he retrieved a gun, according to testimony during trial.

A witness testified that when the victim arrived at the scene to talk to Shipley, they got into an argument in which the defendant told the victim, "hit me and see what you get." Shipley then pushed Demyen, a fight ensued and Shipley pulled out the gun and shot the victim in the chest, the prosecutor said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Palmdale Station.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.